ALPHARETTA, Ga, July 2, 2002 (Press Release) - Stora Enso has awarded Andritz an engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract to increase production of the two existing thermomechanical pulp (TMP) lines at its Port Hawkesbury mill in Nova Scotia, Canada. Output will increase to 1300 air-dried metric tonnes/day (ADMt/d) from the present 1000 ADMt/d level. The result will be the two highest production TMP lines in the world for the production of SCA paper.

Currently, Port Hawkesbury has two lines of three-stage RTSTM refining producing 800 tonnes/day of bleached pulp for the SCA paper machine and 200 tonnes/day of unbleached pulp for the newsprint machine. After the implementation of this project, the mill will produce 900-1000 tonnes/day of bleached pulp for SCA and 300-400 tonnes/day for newsprint.

Stora Enso will supply the 32MW primary refiner motors. Andritz will be responsible for all remaining equipment, electrical, piping, engineering, construction, installation, and start-up. Andritz believes its EPC solution offered many advantages: single-source for Stora Enso, lump sum pricing, and Andritz guarantees for schedule, production rate and pulp quality.

The key equipment and upgrades that combine to allow the record single line pulp production for SCA are the remotoring of the primary refiners from 24 MW to 32 MW, upgrades to the gear increasers to continue RTS refining at the higher production, addition of plug screw feeders before each secondary refiner, modifications to steam and screen piping and MC pump upgrades.